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Message Text

SECRET

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43
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

MMO-01 L-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 EUR-08 AF-04 H-01 /043 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5587
INFO SECDEF IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LONDON 15837

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MARR, XO, UK, US
SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA: UK QUESTIONS ON U.S./UK AGREEMENT

1. ROBERT CORMACK OF FCO CALLED US IN OCTOBER 14 TO INFORM US OF STATUS OF MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION ON DIEGO GARCIA AGREEMENT AND TO POSE QUESTIONS ON U.S. PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING AGREEMENT. FCO HAS ALMOST COMPLETED STAFF WORK ON SUBMISSION. IT WILL BE READY TO PROCEED AS SOON AS FCO GETS ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

2. BRITISH SEE TOTAL AGREEMENT AS COMPRISING THREE DOCUMENTS (A) AGREEMENT ITSELF, (B) SUPPLEMENTAL LETTER LISTING INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF EXPANDED FACILITY AND (C) SERVICE-TO-SERVICE AGREEMENT. IT IS THEIR UNDERSTANDING THAT (A) WILL BE PUBLISHED BUT (B) AND (C) WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT MADE PUBLIC. IS THIS CORRECT? IF SO, WILL (B) AND (C) BE GIVEN TO CONGRESS ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS AS PART OF NORMAL SUBMISSION PROCEDURE? BRITISH HOPE NOT. IF SUPPLEMENTAL DETAILS AND SERVICE-TO-SERVICE DOCUMENT ARE NOT GIVEN TO CONGRESS AT OUTSET WILL THEY BE MADE AVAILABLE LATER TO CONGRESSMEN WHO ASK FOR ALL DOCUMENTS "RELATING TO
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THE AGREEMENT?".

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3.IF CONGRESS RECEIVES CONFIDENTIAL PARTS OF AGREEMENT WILL RECIPIENT BE THE WHOLE CONGRESS, ONE OF INTERESTED COMMITTEES OR INDIVIDUAL CONGRESSMEN?CAN WE SAY ANYTHING ABOUTLIKELIHOOD OF CONGRESS RESPECTING CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS?

4. BRITISH UNDERSTAND THAT CHURCHILL/SCOTT MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1975 IS PART OF NEGOTIATING RECORD BUT NOT PART OF AGREEMENT ITSELF. FCO IS SAYING TO MINISTERS THAT THIS DOCUMENT IS "UN-LIKELY TO BE REVEALED". IS THIS CORRECT? COULD THEY MAKE THIS STATEMENT STRONGER? THEY NOW BELIEVE THAT IF A CONGRESSMAN ASKS FOR DOCUMENTS "RELATING TO THE AGREE-MENT" EXECUTIVE BRANCH WOULD NOT HAVE TO SUPPLY MOC. THEY FEAR THAT IF REQUEST WAS FOR "NEGOTIATING RECORD" USG MIGHT BE FORCED TO PRODUCE DOCUMENT.

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Draft Date: 15 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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